

Lake Washburn Association NEWSITER

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From the Vice-President
By Doug Johnson



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Watercraft Laws
In Summary



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Critters
artists to submit a
drawing of a critter

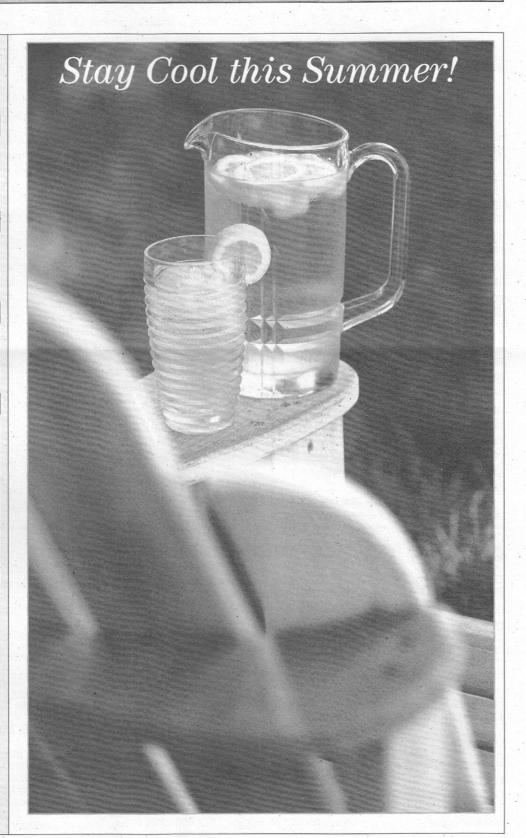


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The Fawn lay motionless for about 10 minutes

ATTENTION ALL LAKE WASHBURN PROPERTY OWNERS!

THE INSTALLATION OF
CLEMSON LEVELERS TO
STABLIZE THE WATER LEVEL
OF THE LAKE WILL BE
DISCUSSED AT THE AUGUST
8TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING. BRING YOUR
OPINIONS AND YOUR
CONCERNS. A VOTE WILL BE
TAKEN. ONLY DUES PAYING
MEMBERS MAY VOTE. OUR
BY-LAWS STATE THAT ONLY
ONE MEMBER OF A FAMILY
MAY VOTE AND PROXY VOTES
MAY NOT BE TAKEN.



LETTER FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

By Doug Johnson

As we get into the summer of the new millennium, I would like to propose a few ideas. Because, to be an effective Association, it requires many ingredients. A few are:

- 1. Participation, whether you be an officer, board of directors member, or a volunteer. Don't depend on the "other guy" to carry the ball. And there's truth in the statement, "There's strength in numbers." So if you're currently not a member, please join.
- 2. Question our current goals, and rules. Are we keeping up with the right priorities? Or are we stagnant? What new goals and rules should we have? What should be deleted? Write your ideas down and participate. Communication and participation are keys to our success.

FROM THE BOATHOUSE

By Kirk Smith

Wow! What a winter! Snowed us in an inch at a time. Never heard a sled go past my house, and I'm not really sure the loons ever left. Global warming must be true. The big lakes only had ice for three and one half months.

Spring has got to be my least favorite time of the year in the north woods (mud season, cold rain and bare woods with garbage showing). yeah, garbage. When the snow melts, it reveals the inevitable assortment of beer cans, old tires and boots. Where does it all come from? Summer before last, my buddy and I were scuba diving in an area lake at about 40 feet of depth, when out of the gloom ahead, what should appear, peacefully resting on the bottom, but an aluminum pop can. Who cares so little about this wonderful place that they would discard refuse IN A LAKE! We must hold each other accountable for the good stewardship of our environment. God bless those folks I see taking proper care of their refuse, and especially those marvelous people who take their own precious time to volunteer to clean up road ditches and other locations where some thoughtless folks dump trash!

Don't forget your local retailers who sell batteries and oil will accept drain oil and junk batteries for proper disposal. Also, please consult local authorities about old gasoline disposal (1 gallon of gas dumped on the ground can contaminate up to 1 million gallons of ground water!) My personal thanks to all of you for taking such good care of this beautiful area. Have a wonderful summer. BOAT SAFE, HAPPY LANDINGS!

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT LAWS-GENERAL OPERATION

Source: MN Department of Natural Resources, "Boat & Water Safety"

What is a personal watercraft? Sometimes known as Jet Skis, Wet Jets, Wave Runners, Sea Doos, water scooters etc., a personal watercraft is defined by law as a motorboat that is: 1) powered by an inboard motor powering a water jet pump or by an outboard or propeller-driven motor; and 2) designed to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on the craft, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside a motorboat

All personal watercraft are considered motorboats and therefore, any regulations that govern other motorboats (such as fishing boats, cabin cruisers, etc.), also govern personal watercraft.

2000 LWA OFFICERS / DIRECTORS

The following are the 2000 LWA Officers and Directors. Please feel free to call and talk with any of them with you concerns about Lake Washburn and the association.

OFFICERS; (One year terms)

 President:
 Gary Ahlquist
 612-448-6371 218-792-5452

 Vice Pres:
 Doug Johnson
 515-438-2670 218-792-5185

 Secretary:
 Don Peterson
 218-792-5257

 Treasurer:
 LaVonne Heston
 218-792-5455

DIRECTORS: One year term

Responsibilities:

 Pat Behning:
 Advertising
 218-792-5111

 George Fortmeyer:
 Dry Well Fire Hydrant
 651-784-2113

 218-792-5416

 Mark Hegman:
 Arrangement/ Meetings
 612-920-2392

 218-792-5499

Directors: Two year term

Terry Carlson : Auditing and Nominating 612-427-2792 218-792-5499
Jack Johnson: Programs 612-90-9367 218-792-5432

Directors: Three year term

Bill Herrick: Boat Monitoring 218-792-5513 John Houston: Buoys, Fish , Secchi Disc 218-792-5440 David Snesrud: Pine River Watershed

CROOKED LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Bill Korman, Chairman
Fred Borgwardt, Vice Charirman
Glen Mechelke, Clerk
Rod Schlosser, Road Supervisor
Roger Fancher, Canister, Town Hall & Property
Larry Gibbs, Weed Inspector

Maintenance Building Telephone number for problems: 792-5918. Voice mail checked daily

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT LAWS IN SUMMARY, THE LAWS REQUIRES THAT:

- Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I.
 II. III. or V personal flotation device (PFD OR LIFE JACKET).
- Personal watercraft must travel at slow no wake speed (5mph or less) within 150 FEET OF NON-MOTORIZED BOATS, SHORE (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), DOCKS, SWIM RAFTS, SWIMMERS, OR ANY MOORED OR ANCHORED BOAT.
- Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 am to 1 hour before sunset.
- · If you tow a person on water skis, or any other device, there must be an additional person on board the personal watercraft to act as an observer. (The observer does not have to be facing backward.) The skier/kneeboarder etc. must also be wearing a PFD or there be one on board the personal watercraft for the skier. Factory-installed or factory-specified wide-field rearview mirrors are allowed instead of an observer when pulling a skier or other device (tube, kneeboard, etc.). The mirrors must be specified by the personal watercraft manufacturer. After-market mirrors, stick-on mirrors, motorcycle mirrors etc., do not qualify for the observer exemption.
- If the machine is equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, it must be attached to the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator when underway.
- You may not operate a personal watercraft if any part of the springloaded throttle system has been removed or tampered with so it



interferes with the return-to-idle system.

- You may not chase or harass wildlife.
- You may not travel through emergent or floating vegetation at

greater than slow-no wake speed.

- You may not operate a personal watercraft in a manner that unreasonably or unnecessarily endangers life, limb or property.
- You may not weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other watercraft. This includes other personal watercraft.
- A personal watercraft rules decal issued by DNR needs to be on the craft in full view of the operator.
- You may not operate a personal watercraft while facing backward.
- IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR THE OWNER OF THE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT TO PERMIT ITS OPERATION IN VIOLATION OF THE AGE RESTRICTIONS.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT OPERATOR AGE RESTRICTIONS(except motorboats)

- LESS THAN 13 YEARS OF AGE personal watercraft-(PWC, JET SKIS ETC.) CANNOT OPERATE, EVEN WITH ADULT ON BOARD.
- 13 YEARS OF AGE-MUST EITHER HAVE: SOMEONE AT LEAST 21 ON BOARD, OR A WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT AND BE IN VISUAL SUPERVISION BY SOMEONE AT LEAST 21.
- 14 17 YEARS OF AGE-MUST EITHER HAVE: A WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT, OR HAVE SOMEONE AT LEAST 21 ON BOARD.

SOME OF THE GENERAL WATERCRAFT LAWS THAT APPLY TO PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

- All personal watercraft must display valid registration decals and registration (MN) numbers on the forward half of both sides of the craft.
- your watercraft license card must be kept on board your craft 3when it's in use.
- All personal watercraft with enclosed engine or fuel compartments (almost all personal watercraft fall into one or the other category) must carry a fully charged, readily accessible, Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher.
- Personal watercraft may not exceed the maximum watercraft noise levels. Also, you may not modify any motorboat (including personal watercraft) in a way that amplifies or increases the noise it emits above watercraft noise limits. No person shall operate or sell a motorboat so modified.
- No person shall sell or offer for sale replacement or additional parts for a motorboat which when installed in the motorboat will amplify or increase the noise emitted above the noise limit. No person shall operate a motorboat incorporating such parts.
- It is unlawful to operate a personal watercraft while intoxicated.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT CONCERNS Unfortunately, along with the growth in the number of personal watercraft has come accidents and complaints from lakeshore residents, other boaters and water recreation enthusiasts.

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Continued from Page 3

RIDE WITH PRIDE Many water scooter accidents involve new and inexperienced riders who haven't received adequate training. If you or your family own a personal watercraft or are going to purchase one, be sure to ask the dealer to provide you with any safety information they may have for your craft. All machines are supplied with an owner's manual and many come equipped with a safety video. Be sure everyone who operates the machine (including friends and guests) watches the video and reads the safety information and knows all the special laws that regulate personal watercraft before they are allowed to operate the scooter.

GIVE IT THE GAS Many accidents have occurred because the operators forgot (or never learned) that a water scooter will not turn unless you apply the throttle. There is no rudder, so the only way it will turn is if there is water spraying out the steering nozzle. This seems simple, but it's amazing how easy it can be to forget when you are hurtling towards some fixed object. A normal reaction might be to cut the power and then turn the

handlebars. This can be a mistake! Remember, to make a turn, keep the throttle pressed as you move the handlebars.

USE SOUND JUDGMENT Personal watercraft noise complaints are one of the most common types of calls received by water safety officials. Although the sound emitted by water scooters is generally less than the legal noise limit for motorboats, the way that some people operate their machines causes a great deal of concern among other people on the lake.

Some personal watercraft riders tend to run their machines for long periods of time in a relatively small area. Many of their neighbors find that having to listen to one or more water scooters buzzing around for several hours in front of their property is very disturbing. In fact, the problem became so severe on one Minnesota lake, local authorities banned personal watercraft operation for more than 30 minutes in one area. Jumping personal watercraft out of the water causes an increase in noise levels, which can also be irritating to quite a few people.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR It's not a bad idea to talk to your neighbors before you bring your new machine home. Tell them to feel free to let you know if the noise from your machine is disturbing them and that you'll try to not operate in the same area for a long period of time. If you're going to jump waves, you had best do it far enough out in the lake so the noise won't bother people trying to enjoy a day of quiet relaxation. You might also offer to take them for a ride too! It's amazing how understanding people become after they experience the fun of riding a water scooter.

PROTECT YOUR RIDING
PRIVILEGES Water scooters can be safe and enjoyable as long as enthusiasts learn how to operate their machine carefully, become familiar with Minnesota's personal watercraft laws, and respect their neighbors' peace and quiet by moving around the lake rather than operating in just one small area. Personal watercraft riders will continue to be able to enjoy their sport without further regulation as long as they obey the laws and ride responsibly

LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION MINUTES-GENERAL MEETING-JUNE 10, 2000

VICE PRESIDENT Doug Johnson called the General Meeting to order. Doug welcomed everyone and introduced our guest speaker, Richard Nelles, a Lake Washburn property owner and Association member, who is very active as a DNR volunteer. Nelles gave a very interesting presentation on his volunteer work with the DNR, which involves Deer Tagging.

SECRETARY Don Peterson read the minutes of the August 14, 1999 General Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

TREASURER Lavonne Heston reviewed the Financial Status of the Association as of June 9, 2000. The new worth of the Association consists of a checking account of \$2407.44, a money market Account of \$1203.16, and three CD's totaling \$10,232.87, for a total Net Worth of \$13843.44.

134 property owners have paid current Association membership dues as of June 9, 2000.

OUTING CANISTER STATION

Please remember the Canister Station is for HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE ONLY. Steel, appliances, tires and furniture must be taken to Pine River Recycling or to Slagle Transfer Station near Longville. The Recycle Bins are marked for what can be put in them. Please observe the signs. The orange bin is for cardboard only. PLEASE break down boxes.

HOURS May 31 to Labor Day Labor Day to May 30 Prices: Regular bag: \$3.00; Large bag: \$4.00

Sat: 10 am to 12pm Sat: 10am to 12pm Sun: 12pm to 4pm Mon: 10am to 12pm Mon: 10am to 12pm Wed: 4pm to 6pm

OLD BUSINESS

• Boat Monitoring
Bill Herrick reported that 67 boats
were checked for Eurasian water
milfoil and other exotic plants over the
three day Memorial Day weekend
(Friday through Sunday). Bill had
sigh-up sheets available for the July
4th and Labor Day weekends and
requested volunteers to fill the two
hour time slots.

• Dry-well Fire Hydrants
George Fortmeyer referred to the DNR
presentation on Dry-well Fire Hydrants
at the August 14, 1999 General
Membership Meeting, and explained
what a Dry-well Fire Hydrant consists
of. He pointed out that because of
minimum water depths and maximum
distance limitations there are few
acceptable location sites on Lake
Washburn. The DNR and Outing Fire
Department continue to survey and
evaluate prospective sites.

• Association Newsletter
Pat Behning reviewed the status of the Association Newsletter. Because of health problems, the first newsletter was in an abbreviated form. Plans are to publish a regular July and fall issue. This will be accomplished through the combined efforts of several Board members and an Association member volunteer. Pat requested help from the membership in obtaining candidates for a Board position who would be willing to assume the editing and publishing of the Association Newsletter.

• Fishing Status

John Houston reported that the DNR did some electro-shock fishing on Lake Washburn with satisfactory results showing a catch of 29 mature walleyes and 22 young walleyes per hour. Young walleyes were from natural reproduction showing that the lake is reproducing fish on a natural basis. Detailed survey results will appear in the Association newsletter. The DNR will continue to do test fishing and netting and will keep us informed.

· No Wake Zone

John Houston reported concerns over excessive boat speed and resulting safety and shoreline erosion issues in the channel between the North and

West lakes. Because of this, the Association Board contacted the Cass County Sheriff Department about installing a "No-Wake Zone" in the channel. The Sheriffs Department surveyed the area and turned down the "No-wake Zone proposal because they do not feel there are significant safety issues. Since they deal strictly with safety issues, they referred the Board to the Cass County Environmental Services Division, if they wish to pursue this further on the shore-line erosion issue. The membership in attendance was asked for a show of hands if they wanted the matter pursued further. There was almost a unanimous vote in favor of continuing to pursuer installation of a "no-wake zone", which the Board will do.

· Secchi Disc

John Houston reported that Secchi Disc readings of the lake water clarity were being taken by several lake property owners on a regular scheduled basis and that he was looking for more volunteers.

NEW BUSINESS

 Organizational Leadership Changes. Pat Behning reported that due to health problems Gary Ahlquist had informed the Board that he would be unable to continue his duties as President of the Association. The Association By-Laws provide that the duty of the Vice President shall be to act in the absence or disability of the President. The Board Formally assigned the duties of President Gary Ahlquist with the exception of the editing and publication of the Lake Washburn Association Newsletter to Vice President Doug Johnson. Gary Ahlquist will assist the president whenever possible.

• Lake Water Level

Doug Johnson reported that the abnormally high water level late last fall and early this spring is due to a large beaver dam across Daggett creek on the south side of County 48. Earlier this spring the water level was between 12 and 18 inches over the spillway at the Daggett outlet on the south end of the west lake. Contact has been made with the DNR, who will not get directly involved, but will

possibly provide a Clemson Leveler with funding assistance to be installed in the beaver dam, subject to adjacent property owners approval. A Clemson Leveler is a pipe of sufficient diameter to permit the free flow of water through the beaver dam to prevent water back-up.

Abnormally high water levels cause flooding and shoreline erosion and can damage public roadways. Doug indicated that the membership would be asked to vote on water level control at the August 12,2000 General Membership meeting and that all property owners should give it a lot of thought. There will be additional information included in the July Association Newsletter.

• Deep Portage Conservation Scholarships

Pat Behning reminded the membership that the Association provides Two youth Scholarships of \$100 each to Deep Portage Conservation Camp each year. Families of Association members are encouraged to apply.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Don Peterson, Secretary

HYDROLAB

Dave Snesrud

Last year we started monitoring the water quality of Lake Washburn with the help of the Pine River Watershed Protection Foundation. The lake was tested four times last year, once per month during June, July, August and September. This year the lake will be tested during the same months. The June testing is scheduled for Monday the 26th. The purpose of this program is to help insure the quality of Lake Washburn now and for the future by showing changes in the water quality.

DRY HYDRANT PROJECT FOR LAKE WASHBURN

by George Fortmeyer

In response to action of the Board of Directors at the meeting of September 11, 1999, I requested the following persons, Pat Behning, Bob Chapman, Jack Schuller- to serve on the Dry Hydrant Committee. Each of them graciously agreed to serve.

The committee met on February 17, 2000 with Len Lang, DNR Forestry also present. We discussed at length the purposes of dry hydrants and possible sites which would best serve our needs. Mr Land also informed us of ideas he and his staff have already thought about. It is quite clear that site selection has to be based primarily on physical characteristics rather than on geographical location around the lake.

Basically, a dry hydrant site must be relatively close to the lake, the ground elevation above the water level cannot be too high and there must be ample room for large tanker trucks to maneuver and to turn around. Some general requirements are:

- 1. The horizontal pipe leading into the lake must be set five feet or more below the water surface to protect from freezing.
- 2. The maximum length of the horizontal intake pipe is about 70 feet.
- 3. The maximum length of the vertical standpipe is about 12 feet.
- 4. The water level in the vertical standpipe will be equal to the lake water level, so that level must be below the frost line so the well is useable in winter. Since the maximum length of the standpipe is 12 feet, the grade above lake level at the site of the standpipe is quite limited, perhaps no more than about five or six feet.

There are few areas around Lake Washburn which can meet all these requirements. Besides the physical characteristics needed, the site should preferably be on public land to avoid problems and expenses associated with property transfer or easements which would come into play if private property is involved.

At the time of the February meeting, the preferred choice for the first site was on East Lake in the area of the campground or public boat landing. A possible second site or alternative the East Lake for the first site, was at a boat landing on Lake George.

In a discussion with Mr. Lang on June 7, 2000, I learned that the East Lake site at the campground and boat landing has been surveyed and evaluated and it is completely unsatisfactory for installation of a dry well hydrant. The water is far too shallow for an extended distance from shore. However, Mr. Lang and his associates are now evaluating a site along the creek that runs between Lake Washburn and Mule Lake. The banks are quite seep, but the site may hold some possibilities. No evaluation has yet been done on a possible Lake George site. If one of the sites is acceptable, Mr. Lang will obtain the necessary permits to proceed with the work.

With respect to costs involved, particularly with the first site, Mr. Lang is confident that some local contractors will be willing to donate the use of the heavy equipment needed to do the trenching, etc. There may be some small cost of fuel and other incidentals, but nothing to be concerned with at this time. Mr. Lang agreed to keep the committee informed as to progress on the project and will inform us when and if our involvement, financially or otherwise is needed.

In general, the whole purpose of this exercise is gain access to a nearby water supply to replenish the tankers which are sent to the scene of a fire. Currently, the tankers usually return to Outing for this purpose, which obviously involves substantial travel time.

At this time, it is not considered necessary to set up dry hydrants in the eastern and northern parts of the lake. The Fire Department already has informal arrangements with the Fishery Station on Highway 6 for tankers to refill at that site. After a renovation project is completed at the site, Mr. Lang intends to engage in a formal agreement so there will never be a question as to how and where to obtain water there. Apparently there would be ample supplies of water and plenty of access and turnaround space for the tankers. This site would provide ample service for any incidents along Eastburn Road.

With respect to Fehrs Drive, Mr. Lang is convinced that current arrangements are adequate. Any fire call in this area is answered by both Outing and Remer Fire Departments through mutual agreement which stem basically from the fact that Fehrs Drive runs through both Crooked Lake and Thunder Lake Townships. The Outing Fire Department has two tankers and two pumpers with a total water capacity of about 6000 gallons. Remer has about the same capacity, but about half could be devoted to a Fehrs Road incident. At any rate, with maybe six tankers and pumpers available with approximately 9000 gallons total, and with shorter runs (to the Fisheries site for example), it is felt that a dry hydrant is not needed at this time.

In conclusion, it is clear that the project involving dry hydrants or other water supply sites, is the province of the DNR and the Outing Fire Department. Although the Lake Washburn Association has a great interest in this subject, our involvement will be somewhat limited with decisions and direction handled by DNR and the Outing Fire Department, as well the should be. We value Mr. Lang's invitation for us to be involved. It makes good sense, not only for the relationship with our members, but also for good public relations for the DNR and Fire Department.

NEW PERCH PARASITE

Scientists recently identified a new perch parasite found in Minnesota's Leech Lake and Wisconsin's Eagle Chain of Lakes. The have not yet determined whether it's dangerous to human health or aquatic ecosystems. The microscopic parasite turns the fish fillet an opaque white and can only be seen when the fish is filleted. A healthy perch fillet is translucent.

Wisconsin state health officials said that the parasite is not known to harm humans and is killed when the meat is cooked thoroughly. It is not known if the parasite is an exotic species or is native to North America and has only recently been discovered.

To prevent the parasite from spreading, Wisconsin health officials recommend that infected fish or fillets should be disposed of in the garbage or buried, but not thrown back into a lake.

Joe Marino, who manages the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources pathology laboratory urges anglers to contact him if fillets of perch, or the closely related walleye or sauger, have opaque white portions. He can be reached at 651-296-3043 or joe.marcino@dnr.state.mn.us.

DEEP PORTAGE NEEDS CRITTER ART

Every year Deep Portage asks all artists to submit a drawing of a "critter" to be displayed on the sweatshirts, T-shirts, and membership mugs.

The critters used in the past have been: raccoon, skunk, woodpecker, bobcat, hummingbird, eagle, beaver, and others. The committee suggests either wildlife or aquatic life suitable for mugs and T-shirts. Share your artistic talent with the many visitors and residents of our north country. Drawings must be on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper in Indian Ink. Tuesday, August 15, 2000, is the deadline for entries, which can be sent to Deep Portage Conservation Reserve, 2197 Nature Center Drive NW, Hackensack, MN 56542

If you have any questions, please call the Reserve at 218-682-2325.

Lake W M E	M B E R	SH	I P
Name:			
Permanent Address:			
City:	St:	Zip:	
Lake Address:			
City:	Zip:	Fire#:_	
Fehr's Road Longwood Point Highway 6	Birch Bay Road Lake George Road Peninsula Road Highway 48	Eastburn RoadLois LaneWest WashburnOther	Road
I am interested in participati	ng as marked:		
Board Position Highway Cleanup Fish Stocking	Natural Re Boat Moni Hydro-lab		Zoning/Planning Bouy Markers
Yearly Membership Donation	: \$10.00 (Jan. 1-Dec. 31)	New	Renewal
Additional Donation (amount	t):		
Ecological Fund	Hydro-labGen	neral Fund	Other (specify)
Mail completed form to:	Lake Washburn Associati	on	

Box 26 • Outing, MN 56662

In early June, John Houston and his brother Bob, were walking down the Houston driveway after a walk up the road. They startled a doe and her fawn. The doe took off thru the woods and the fawn instinctly "dropped" to the ground and lay motionless. John cut thru the neighbors property and went and got the camera. The fawn lay motionless for about 10 minutes, when finally it got up and wobbled off into the woods. Nature is great!









